

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L PARIS 26999

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, UNSC, CY, GR, TU, FR
SUBJECT: QUAI VIEWS ON CYPRUS AND AEGEAN

REF: USUN 3678

1. SUMMARY: QUAI OFFICER IN CHARGE GREECE-TURKEY-
CYPRUS AFFAIRS REUILLARD REFLECTS CONTINUED PESSIMISM ON
CYPRUS BUT SEEMED MORE UP-BEAT ON PROSPECTS FOR GRADUAL
RESOLUTION OF AEGEAN ISSUES. END SUMMARY.

2. REGARDING CYPRUS REUILLARD EXPRESSED DISAPPOINTMENT
OVER WALDHEIM'S FAILURE TO HEED FRENCH (AND UK) ADVICE
TO CALL FOR RESUMPTION INTERCOMMUNAL TALKS WELL BEFORE
UNGA, AT LATEST EARLY IN SEPTEMBER.

3. WHILE PROSPECTS SUCH TALKS WOULD NOT HAVE BEEN
BRILLIANT, THEY WOULD HAVE BEEN BETTER, IN QUAI VIEW,
THAN "WALDHEIM'S OWN IDEA" (REFTEL) TO HAVE SEPARATE
TALKS WITH ONAN AND PAPADOPOULOS UNDER OVERHANGING
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PRESSURE OF GA DEBATE. AT BEST, REUILLARD ARGUES, WALD-

HEIM'S INITIATIVE WILL LEAD TO RESUMPTION OF BILATERAL SUB-COMMISSION CONTACTS ON CYPRUS, ON DUBIOUS ASSUMPTION MAKARIOS WOULD AGREE. AT WORST, I.E., IF AS FRENCH EXPECT THEY WILL FAIL, THEY COULD SET STAGE FOR DAMAGING EXCHANGES IN GA, WHICH COULD LEAD TO FURTHER LOSS OF TIME TO CALM SIDES DOWN AGAIN. ON EITHER ASSUMPTION, REUILLARD SAW LITTLE BLUE SKY ON THE HORIZON. (COMMENT: SINCE WE DO NOT HAVE CLEAR UNDERSTANDING ALL FACTORS WHICH LEAD UP TO WALDHEIM'S MOVE, WE REPORT ABOVE FOR WHAT INTEREST QUAI PERSPECTIVE MAY HAVE.)

4. ON OTHER HAND REUILLARD WAS SURPRISINGLY CHEERFUL ABOUT AEGEAN. ICJ DECISION, WHILE DISAPPOINTING TO GREEKS, HAD SERVED ITS MAIN PURPOSE OF PREOCCUPYING GREEK PUBLIC WHILE SISMIL OPERATION ACTUALLY UNDERWAY AND SO DEFLECTING POLITICAL PRESSURES ON GOG TO TAKE MILITARY ACTION. NOW THAT SISMIL MAY LEAVE SCENE FOR CERTAIN TIME, BILATERAL EXPRESSIONS OF WILLINGNESS TO EXCHANGE VIEWS ON AEGEAN PROBLEMS, WHICH WERE MADE IN WAKE OF RECENT SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION, SHOULD COME INTO PLAY. IN QUAI VIEW THIS WILL BE A LONG, DRAWN-OUT PROCESS, WITH MANY UPS AND DOWNS. EVEN SO IT SHOULD GRADUALLY SHED SOME LIGHT FOR BOTH SIDES. FACT THAT TURKS, THROUGH SHEER STUBBORNNESS, HAVE IN FACT SUCCEEDED IN TURNING CYPRUS ISSUE INTO IMPLICIT AEGEAN BARGAINING CHIP (WHICH QUAI HAS BEEN WORRIED ABOUT FOR OVER A YEAR) MAY NOW, IN FACT, HELP ENERGIZE AEGEAN EXCHANGES EVEN THOUGH AT EXPENSE OF CYPRUS.

5. PROBLEM, AS FAR AS CYPRUS IS CONCERNED, WILL REMAIN HOW LONG TURKS WILL IN FACT CONTINUE TO BE INTRANSIGENT IN SITUATION IN WHICH THEY HAVE ATTAINED ALL THEIR OBJECTIVES AND HOLD ALL THE CHIPS. QUAI HOPE NOW IS THAT ONCE AEGEAN ISSUES BEGIN TO MOVE, CYPRUS TOO WILL BECOME MORE NEGOTIABLE. FOR SHORTER TERM PROBLEM IS TO KEEP CHANNELS OPEN, CYPRUS AS WELL. REUILLARD WAS GLOOMY ABOUT EFFECTIVENESS WALDHEIM'S MOVE THIS REGARD. RUSH

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